considered necessary in the interest of improving Indian Mercantile Marine Administration. The matter regarding setting up of Indian Maritime Service cadre out of this pool is under examination.

(c) No such proposal is pending with the Government.

Repayment of loans to Asian Development Bank

*163. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL:
SHRIAJAYMAROO:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Highway Authority of India has defaulted in repayment of loans to the Asian Development Bank;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the officers responsible for this lapse?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) repaid the first instalment of Asian Development Bank (ADB) Loan amounting to US $ 43,08,820.36 (Rs. 19,14,40,889) for Surat-Manor Tollway Project on 10.01.2006, 9 days beyond the due date of 01.01.2006. The delay was due to lapse on part of the concerned officers.

(c) A fact finding enquiry has investigated into this lapse and based on the enquiry, one Dy. General Manager (Finance & Accounts) has been placed under suspension and one General Manager (Finance & Accounts) who was on deputation to the NHAI, has been repatriated to the parent organization.

Implementation of Central Right to Information Act

*164. SHRIMATIHEMAMALINI:
SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ensured that the Central Right to Information Act is being implemented throughout the country;

(b) whether any States are lagging behind; and

(c) if so, which are these States and what steps are being taken to ask those States for its immediate implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCESAND PENSIONS (SHRISURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) The Central Government has already taken action for the implementation of various provisions of the Act by public authorities under it. The State Governments also are under a statutory obligation to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Act. The Central Government, however, has requested the State Governments to ensure speedy and full implementation of the Act by public authorities under their control.

According to information presently available 17 State Governments have set up State Information Commissions and made appointments thereto. Efforts will continue to be made by the Central Government to persuade all State Governments to ensure full compliance with the provisions of the Act.

Revival of certain printing presses

† *165. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that printing presses at Kolkata, Shimla, Chandigarh, Gangtok and Stationery Office and Central Forms Centres at Kolkata are without work for the last many years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the efforts being made by Government to revive them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. These units are executing works as per requirement.

(c) The Government has taken following decisions about the Government Presses/Units:—

(i) Press at Temple Street, Kolkata and Santragachi, Howrah to be modernized at a cost of Rs. 240.15 lakh and Rs. 413.95 lakh respectively;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.